to be the Members of the House subject to other provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder."

The motion was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS)

12.03½ hrs.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : I beg to lay on the table a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1997-98.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, I want to raise a matter regarding today's business. *...(Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : An understanding was reached that the matter which is being discussed now will be disposed of before two o'clock. *...(Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot hear you. Let Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan make a point.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN *alias* PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : A conspiracy has been hatched to kill me. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will come to that.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, an understanding was reached regarding today's business. We have a Motion on Bihar which was moved by the Leader of the Opposition. I request you to finish that item today by dispensing with the lunch hour. The matter can be disposed of by two o'clock. I think, an understanding has been reached that the Motion under Rule 184 regarding atrocities on dalits in Mumbai can be taken up at two o'clock. Please announce that in the House. *...(Interruptions).* We want to plan our programme. We want to know when the Maharashtra matter will come up. There is an understanding with the Speaker. Please let us know. *...(Interruptions).*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Mr. Chairman, I gave a notice today. *...(Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Regarding the point raised by Shri Prithviraj Chavan, I want to inform the House that there was an understanding in the discussion that we had with the leaders of the political parties that we would complete the discussion on Bihar by sitting continuously, skipping the lunch hour and we would dispose of the discussion on Bihar, as early as possible.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when was this discussion with the leaders of the political parties held yesterday and where was it held?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There was no meeting.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : I must know the factual position.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will tell you. There was no formal meeting of the party leaders. I did not say that. What I said was, about the Bihar discussion the party leaders met the hon. Speaker.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Sir, a wrong thing should not go on record.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sarpotdar, please listen to me. I did not say that there was a meeting. I said that there was an understanding. That means, the party leaders met the hon. Speaker and there was an understanding. I did not say that there was a decision taken and I did not say that there was a meeting. Please understand.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no urgency to finish the discussion today itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is nothing like that. Nobody wants an item to drag on like that. Otherwise, there is no question of urgency.

...(Interruptions)